

E-LABorations

Montana DPHHS Environmental Laboratory Updates

June 2010

Inside this issue:

| | |
|--------------|----|
| WLA | P1 |
| Partnerships | P1 |
| Links | P2 |
| Web Site | P2 |

DPHHS ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY

24/7 Contact Number
1-800-821-7284

OFFICE

Environmental 444-2642

SUPERVISOR

Russell Leu 444-5259

CHEMISTS

Gayle LaBlanc
Jill Cohenour
Wayne Svec
Casey Redder
Curtis Fjelstad
Philip Wisniewski

LABORATORY PREPAREDNESS

SUPERVISOR

Mary Simmons 444-9777

CHEMICAL TERRORISM

COORDINATOR

Joel Felix 444-4115

BIO-TERRORISM

COORDINATOR

Kathy Martinka 444-0944

If you have events or stories to include in future issues please submit them by email to: Joel Felix
jfelix@mt.gov

WATER LABORATORY ALLIANCE (WLA)



Dusti Lowndes, DEQ

This month **Dusti Lowndes**, DEQ Public Water Supply – Security and Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, was asked to attend the Water Laboratory Alliance (WLA) – Security Summit and assist the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as a liaison for the WLA in Montana. The EPA's launching of the Water Laboratory Alliance (WLA) marks a dynamic effort to equip the nation's Water Sector with a means to process a surge of drinking water samples during an emergency event. The WLA is comprised of laboratories across the country with expertise in responding to natural, accidental, or intentional water contamination incidents. The launch of the WLA coincided with the second phase roll-out of EPA's Environmental Response Laboratory Network (ERLN). The WLA is an integral part of the ERLN and focuses on water; the ERLN also addresses other environmental matrices, including air and soil. In partnership with the State Environmental Laboratory, Dusti hopes to provide additional outreach and training on WLA and its resources for water events.

To learn more please see: <http://cfpub.epa.gov/safewater/watersecurity/wla.cfm>



Chemist, Jill Cohenour and Members of the State HazMat Advisory Group (SHMAG)

Partnerships

Coordinating Laboratory and Hazmat Emergency Response

Joel Felix (Chemical Terrorism Laboratory Coordinator) and **Jill Cohenour** (Chemist) from the Department of Public Health & Human Services Laboratory Services Bureau provided introductory training on the Drinking Water Emergency Sampling (DWES) Kits at a recent **State HazMat Advisory Group (SHMAG)** meeting. Each of the 6 Regional HazMat Teams were issued a DWES kit for their HazMat Trailer. Although DWES kits are being geographically distributed to each of the counties, a kit will also be housed in each Hazmat trailer and will provide an immediate resource in the event a Hazmat Team is asked to assist in a response to an emergency drinking water event.

Continued on page 2

Links of Interest

IRIS Toxicological Review of Formaldehyde-Inhalation Assessment (External Review Draft)

EPA announces the release of the Toxicological Review of Formaldehyde-Inhalation Assessment in the June 2, 2010 Federal Register Notice. This draft assessment is provided for public viewing and comment.

mailto:http://cfpub.epa.gov/ncea/iris_drafts/recordisplay.cfm?deid=223614

EPA's Reanalysis of Key Issues Related to Dioxin Toxicity and Response to NAS Comments (External Review Draft)

EPA has released a draft dioxin reanalysis report for a 120-day public review and comment period as stated in the Dioxin Science Plan and announced in an May 21, 2010 Federal Register (FR) Notice, with the extension in a June 23, 20 FR Notice..

<http://cfpub.epa.gov/ncea/cfm/recordisplay.cfm?deid=222203>

Please visit our website

The DPHHS Laboratory has updated our website!

New postings include:

- ◆ New water test request forms
- ◆ The 2010-2011 clinical Laboratory Services Manual
- ◆ The fee list effective on July 1, 2010
- ◆ A story about our recent open house along with a great new staff photo!

Here is a link to the website: <http://lab.hhs.mt.gov>

Please [contact us](#) if you have suggestions for items you'd like to see on our website.

When you drink the water, remember the spring.

CHINESE PROVERB